

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic F. Worth Riley House (preferred)

and/or common F. Worth Riley House

2. Location

street & number 751 Roland Avenue _____ not for publication

city, town Bel Air _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district 1st

state Maryland _____ county Harford

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
___ district	___ public	___x occupied	___ agriculture
___x building(s)	___x private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational
___ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	___ entertainment
___ object	___ in process	___x yes: restricted	___ government
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial
	___ not applicable	___ no	___ military
			___ other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name F. Worth Riley

street & number 747 Roland Avenue _____ telephone no.: 301-838-3255

city, town Bel Air _____ state and zip code Maryland 21014

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Harford County Courthouse _____ liber 271 584

street & number Main Street _____ folio 461 116

city, town Bel Air _____ state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title _____

date _____ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

pository for survey records

city, town _____ state

7. Description

Survey No. HR-765

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

8. Significance

Survey No.

HA-1765

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. NA-1765

Larew, Marilyn M. BEL AIR: The Town Through Its Buildings, The Town of Bel Air and the Maryland Historical Trust, 1981.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

This property occupies Parcel 35 in the Town of Bel Air.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Elizabeth Lampl

organization Robinson & Associates

date 5/16/90

street & number 1710 Connecticut Avenue, NW

telephone 202-234-2333

city or town Washington

state DC

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

F. Worth Riley House
751 Roland Avenue
#

Item 7, Description (continuation sheet)

This Cape Cod cottage was built in 1945. The house is reached via a slightly curved, brick walkway from the street. The horizontal, 1 1/2-story, brick house is four bays wide. It features a vinyl-clad one-story, side-gable addition in the leftmost bay of the principal (southwest) elevation. To the rear, at the northwest end of the house, is a one-story ell.

The main body of the house is three-bays wide and contained underneath a side-gable, slate roof which is slightly higher in elevation than the roof of the one-story addition. Piercing the roof along the front slope are two large, gable dormers. All windows in the main body of the house, including those of the dormers, are casement windows--paired in the dormers and in groups of three on the ground floor.

The central door is reached by ascending two steps. It is located underneath a projecting asbestos-shingle hood. This door is supported by a projecting, short wall of wooden boards to the left of the door. There are both a screen door and a wooden door.

The brick chimney on the northwest elevation was very possibly an exterior chimney when the house was built. Today, it is an interior chimney which pierces the roof near the ridges of the porch roof and the main house roof where they meet.

The one-story, enclosed porch in the leftmost bay of the facade features a glass sliding door on the facade and a three-part awning casement window on the northwest elevation. This bay is clad in aluminum siding.

F. Worth Riley House
751 Roland Avenue
#

Item 8, Significance (continuation sheet)

Built in 1945,² this Cape Cod cottage sits on land which originally belonged to Mary Dallam. She sold the land to R. Harry Webster in 1908 (125/98). It remained in the Webster family until 1940, when F. Sanner Bailey bought it (263/7), and immediately sold it to Charles H. McComas, Jr. bought it (263/414). In 1942 and 1961, F. Worth Riley obtained title to the property (271/461 and 584/116). F. Worth Riley still owns the property today.

This house was built in a section of town subdivided in 1885 as "Dallam's Second Addition." Dallam's Second Addition included the two square blocks north of Mary Dallam's home, Tulip Hill (located at the corner of Rock Spring Road and Howard Street). The new subdivision was bounded by Vale Road on the north and Howard Street on the south. Several Late Victorian homes were built in this area between 1885 and 1912.

Little to no building activity occurred in this subdivision during the third and fourth decades of the 20th century. In 1930, the town of Bel Air incorporated the addition into its limits.

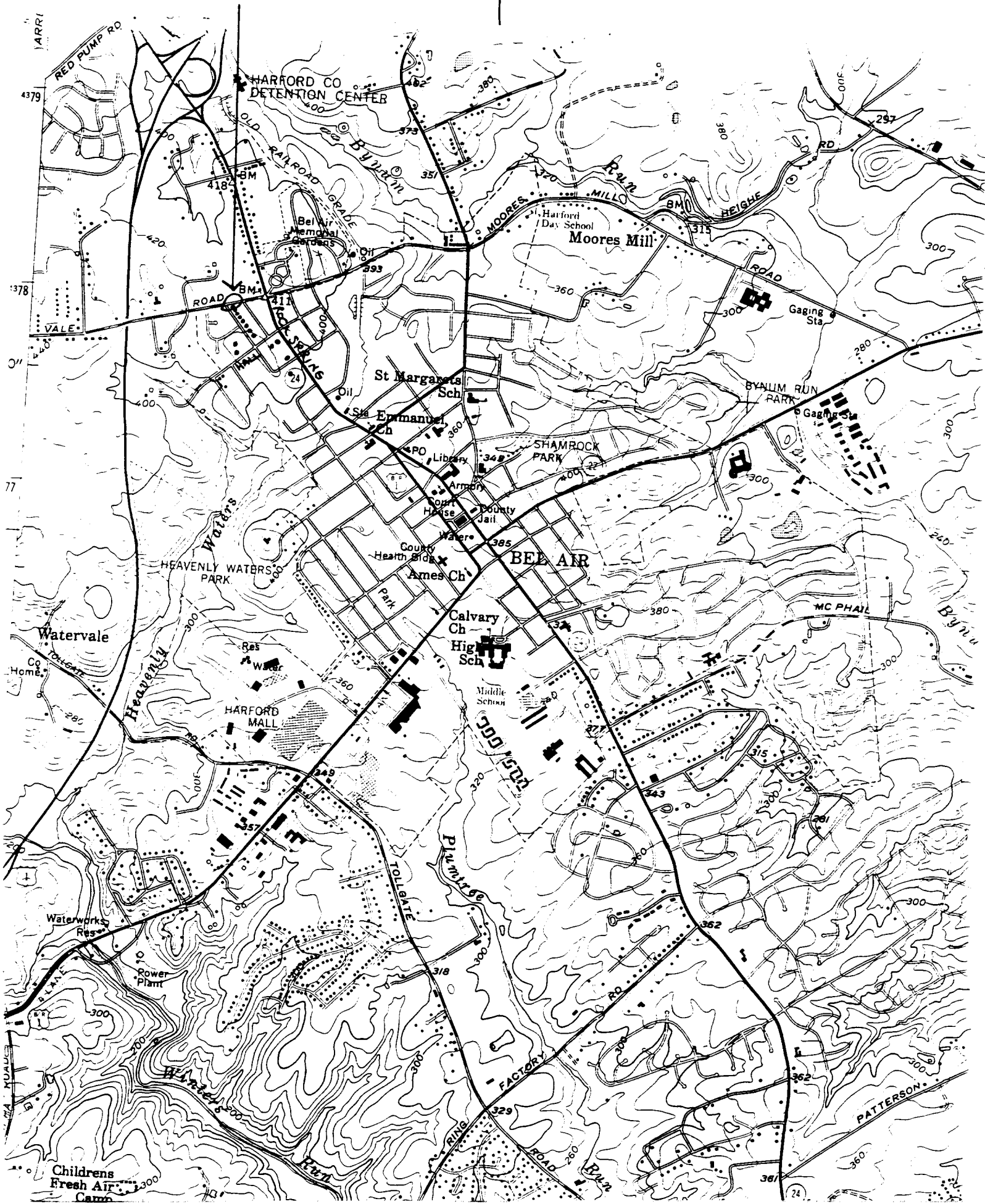
Changes were made to Dallam's Second Addition beginning in the 1930s. The northern segment of Dallam's Second Addition, the area bounded by Hall Street on the south, Vale Road on the north, Roland Street on the west, and Rock Spring Avenue on the east was platted and renamed the "Rock Spring Addition." The 1931 plat for this addition shows only two houses standing in the area, a large house at the northeast corner of Roland and Hall (703 Roland Avenue) and its barn (no longer extant), located behind the house on Robinson Street. The alley between Rock Spring and Roland Avenues in the southern segment of Dallam's Second Addition corresponds to Robinson Street in the Rock Spring Addition. Lots in the renamed Rock Spring Addition were 25 feet across. The intent of the subdivider in creating such narrow lots is unclear.

In September 1940, the plat of one-half of the Rock Spring Addition, the block between Hall Street, Vale Road, Roland Avenue and Robinson Street, was further revised. The 1940 plat for this area reveals larger lots and a new lot numbering system, perhaps indicating that the 25-foot lots did not sell well. The basic 1940 configuration still exists today: the average lots on the northeast side of Roland Avenue are 60 feet across, while those on Robinson Street are 55.63 feet across. Lots 15 and 16 of Roland Avenue are 92.86 feet across. Robinson Street, like Roland Avenue, contains houses built in the 1940s and 1950s, with additional homes constructed as recently as the 1980s.

The majority of houses are in the "minimal traditional," and Cape Cod styles. At this time, these houses have no apparent architectural significance.

² The date of construction comes from the Harford County Tax Assessors Office.

#HA-1765
Bel Air, MD Quad





F. Worth Riley House

2H-1765

751 Roland Avenue

Quilz Mueller

5/1/90

Facing northeast



F. Worth Riley House

11A P125

751 Roland Avenue

Quile Huelar

5/1/90

Facing east